

**Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST**

Fur Farm, Game Bird Farm, Zoo/Menagerie, Shooting Preserve

**PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION**

Project Title: HANSON SHOOTING PRESERVE

Application Date: AUGUST 20, 2002

Name, Address and Phone Number: DAVID HANSON

358-2326 BOX 225

MELSTONE, MT 59054

Project Location: MELSTONE, MONTANA portion of T9N R30E section 12

Description of Project: Shooting preserve operated for commercial use by the public. The shooting preserve will encompass approximately 190 acres and the applicant proposes to release ring-necked pheasants for harvest by clients. Applicant would benefit from the commercial nature of the preserve by the creation of additional income.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

None

## **PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats			X			
3. Introduction of new species into an area				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity & quality				X		
5. Water quality, quantity & distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
6. Existing water right or reservation				X		
7. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture				X		
8. Air quality or objectionable odors				X		
9. Historical & archaeological sites				X		
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
11. Aesthetics				X		

### **Comments**

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

NONE

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment .

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Social structures and cultural diversity				X		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat			X			
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural production				X		
5. Human health			X			
6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income				X		
7. Access to & quality of recreational activities			X			
8. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances)				X		
9. Distribution & density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity			X			

### **Comments**

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided as comments.)

#2,#7 Applicant received game damage materials in 2000 for deer damaging stackyard. A reasonable amount of non-commercial hunting opportunity has existed in the past.

Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur?

Minor concerns due to the county roadway along the proposed preserve's west boundary. However, this potential risk is negligible due to the low amount of traffic in the area. Laws in place do restrict shooting from, on, or across any public road (MCA 87-3-101).

Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant?

No

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

After analysis of the proposal, it appears to be a reasonable application for the proposed area. No alternative measures would be needed under the current proposal. The no action alternative would leave the proposed area as is, leaving the applicant without the opportunity to earn income from the property.

List suggested mitigative measures for license:

A no-shooting zone could be established along the west boundary of the preserve to safeguard vehicles along the public road.

Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA:

EA prepared by: Adam Rahmlow      Roundup Game Warden

Date Completed:

### **PART 3. DECISION**

**Recommendation and justification concerning preparation of EIS:**

**Describe public involvement, if any:** Neighboring landowners were notified of this project and asked for comment. The EA was also placed on the FWP website for public review from October 3 until October 11. Comments should be sent to Warden Adam Rahmlow at [arahmlow@midrivers.com](mailto:arahmlow@midrivers.com).

**Recommendation for license approval:**

**Wildlife Manager**

**Date**

**Warden Captain**

**Date**